

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNITION OF BILL YOUNG

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Bill Young as State President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Bill has served the AOH as its President for the past four years with great distinction. His service to the community and in particular, the Irish American community, has been a constant theme throughout his life going back to his early days in Bayonne with Tommy Foley and his father's shoe shine box.

Growing up as a young Irish Catholic, Bill was instilled with a sense of Christian charity early on at St. Vincent de Paul Grammar School. Those values have guided Bill throughout his career in public service at the Port Authority of NY & NJ, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the United States Coast Guard Reserve.

In addition to his significant professional achievements, Bill has been actively involved in numerous community organizations where he has displayed his commitment to the purposes and goals of the AOH—to promote Irish culture and encourage civic participation. Bill has walked in the Annual Bloody Sunday march in Derry the past four years and pressures elected officials to recognize the contributions of Irish Americans ensuring that they fight for peace and justice in the North of Ireland.

Under Bill Young's leadership as State President the AOH has seen a 40 percent growth in Divisions, a strong increase in membership, and more accessibility of the State Board through roaming meetings and degree programs. The State Board has been instrumental in fundraising efforts to allow NJ Special Olympians to travel to Ireland for the Special Olympics and for the efforts to build a famine memorial in Keansburg.

Mr. Speaker, once again I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Bill for his tireless service to the AOH and the Irish American community. I hope that he continues to remain actively involved in promoting the values of friendship, unity and Christian charity.

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE ORDER SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the Order Sons of Italy in America, OSIA, as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary. As the oldest

and largest organization for Americans of Italian descent, OSIA has a rich history of making outstanding contributions to the community. The organization now has 700 local chapters across the Nation.

Since June 22, 1905 when an Italian immigrant, Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro and his five compatriots established OSIA, the organization has worked to preserve and disseminate the rich Italian heritage of 23 million Americans of Italian descent. Men and women share equal status within OSIA. The Grand Lodge of New York founded in 1911, was OSIA's first Grand Lodge. There are now 20 Grand Lodges. Today there are 96 local chapters in New York State, with 50,000 family memberships. OSIA has also been dedicated to helping immigrants acclimate to their new country. In its early years, OSIA established free schools to teach immigrants English.

Imbued with a strong sense of patriotism, during World War I and World War II, OSIA members competed against one another to buy the greatest amount of war bonds and war stamps to raise money for the American Red Cross. To date, OSIA members have given more than \$83 million to educational programs, disaster advancement and medical research. Additionally, the organization has created The Sons of Italy Foundation, which has given over \$38 million for scholarships, medical research, cultural preservation and disaster relief. Today, OSIA researches Italian-American culture and history, promotes the study of Italian in the United States, provides scholarships to Italian Americans and organizes grassroots campaigns in support of legislation, as well.

Not only have the members of the OSIA dedicated themselves to charitable funding, but they have also actively promoted social justice through their anti-defamation arm, the Commission for Social Justice. The Commission has actively fought for equal treatment of people regardless of their race, religion or culture.

Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro gave an inaugural address the day the OSIA was founded. He stated, "Today I have a dream and a hope that some day even if it takes 100 years before we are ever fully accepted, our children, even if they carry a single drop of Italian blood, will be able and proud to carry on our traditions, our culture and our language. It is up to us, and what we do today." Vincenzo Sellaro would be proud to see what the Order Sons of Italy in America has accomplished for Americans of Italian descent over the past 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Order Sons of Italy in America has been an asset to the New York City community and our Nation as a whole for a hundred years. It has been my pleasure to work with this outstanding organization for many years, and I wish them another century of success. Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in honoring the Order Sons of Italy in America on their 100th anniversary.

### ON THE RETIREMENT OF COLONEL DEBORAH ANDWOOD FROM THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE

#### HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2005

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, from the Revolutionary War to the mountains of Afghanistan and the sands of Iraq, Massachusetts' sons and daughters have answered the call for military service.

This weekend, after three decades of active duty service, Colonel Deborah Andwood will retire from the U.S. Army Reserve. In her 30 years of service she's gone from being a cold warrior to homeland defender. Colonel Andwood's commitment, dedication and professionalism has earned the respect and admiration of our entire community.

For several years, Colonel Andwood has served our Commonwealth as the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. In this capacity, Colonel Andwood has assisted in coordinating responses for such events as the Democratic National Convention, LNG tanker arrivals and the 2004 World Series.

It is with some special pride, as a fellow native of the city of Quincy, that I commend to my colleagues the following narrative prepared recently by her fellow officers as they get ready to say farewell and thank you.

AWARD NARRATIVE—COLONEL DEBORAH J. ANDWOOD

COL Deborah Andwood distinguished herself by exceptionally meritorious service while serving in successive assignments of great trust and responsibility. COL Andwood received a direct commission as Second Lieutenant in the Women's Army Corps shortly after receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Westfield State College.

Following completion of Active Duty assignments as a Signal officer, COL Andwood joined the U.S. Army Reserve. COL Andwood served as the unit Training Officer in the 1037th U.S. Army Reserve School. COL Andwood completed the Transportation Officer Advanced Course and was assigned to the 1172nd Transportation Terminal Unit. She successfully completed assignments of increasing responsibility as Warehouse Officer, Chief of Cargo Documentation, Vessel Operations Chief, and Assistant Operations Chief. Later, COL Andwood was assigned to the 1173rd Transportation Terminal Unit as Vessel Section Chief and Battalion Executive Officer.

After successfully completing her tour as Battalion Executive Officer, COL Andwood was selected as Battalion Commander of the 1205th Transportation Railway Battalion. Through her efforts in recruiting, retention and training, she improved her battalion's rating to an overall C-3 status for the first time. A significant accomplishment leading to this was the effectiveness of her unit's on-the-job railroad training program that greatly enhanced the unit's MOSQ level. COL Andwood's leadership resulted in IDT attendance remaining above 85% and outstanding

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.